Amendments to the Specification

Please amend para. 7, on pgs. 5-6 18 of the Specification as follows:

[0007] In the embodiment of FIG. 2, there is one protocol transport layer 40a, 40b, and 40c to interface with each type of application layer 48a, 48b, 48c in the application layer 50. The application layer 50 may be supported in the adaptor 12 or host system 2 and provides network services to the end users. For instance, the SSP transport layer [[46a]] 40a interfaces with a SCSI application layer 48a, the STP transport layer [[46c]] 40b interfaces with an Advanced Technology Attachment (ATA) application layer 48b, and the SMP transport layer [[46d]] 40c interfaces with a management application layer 48c. Further details of the ATA technology are described in the publication "Information Technology -AT Attachment with Packet Interface – 6 (ATA/ATAPI-6)", reference no. ANSI INCITS 361-2002 (September, 2002). Further details on the operations of the physical layer, PHY layer, link layer, port layer, transport layer, and application layer and components implementing such layers described herein are found in the SAS Specification.

Please amend para. 18 on pgs. 9-10 of the Specification as follows:

[0018] FIG. [[8]] 9 illustrates operations performed by a remote device upon receiving (at block 320) a request for the remote topology information from the device. The remote device determines (at block 322) whether the remote topology information is completed. The remote topology information may be completed in response to determining the device type of at least one additional device to which the remote device connects; receiving additional topology information from the at least one additional device to which the remote device connects that is of the specified device type; and   merging the received additional topology information with the remote topology information.